

Environmental Justice Mapping Tools

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EJ Geographic Assessment Tool

- The EJ Assessment tool allows U.S. EPA to analyze the area of concern by measuring a variety of assessment variables in relation to regulated facilities (e.g., Superfund and hazardous waste facilities).
- Assessment variables include:
 - demographics, such as persons per square mile;
 - per capita income; and
 - percent below the poverty line.

EJ Geographic Assessment Tool (Cont.)

- Provides information relevant to assessing:
 - adverse health or environmental impacts;
 - aggregate or cumulative impacts;
 - unique exposure pathways;
 - vulnerable or susceptible populations; and
 - lack of capacity to participate in decision making process among other conditions.

Other Tools and Topics

- Other Tools: U.S. EPA may also consider other tools (e.g., ESRI mapping software).
- In February 2006, the Environmental Data Standards Council (EDSC) approved new data standards for use on the Environmental Information Exchange Network.
- For more information, please visit EDSC's website at: www.envdatastandards.net.

New Superfund Sites

- CERCLA requires ICs when sites cannot support unlimited use and unrestricted exposure (UU/UE) due to site-related contamination
- ICs are used when:
 - Contamination is first discovered and access to property needs to be restricted;
 - Cleanup work is ongoing; or
 - Contamination remains on-site

ICs during Superfund Action

- Agency may be able to use the EJ Assessment tool to support:
 - More layering (provide more context for site);
or
 - Support community involvement in IC selection



Post Construction Complete (PCC) Sites

- U.S. EPA IC Strategy:
 - U.S. EPA evaluates whether ICs have been appropriately implemented at CERCLA sites.
 - If ICs are not correctly implemented at a site, U.S. EPA will undertake steps to ensure the remedy is and will remain protective of human health and environment.

ICs During PCC Process

- When U.S. EPA conducts the site review and determines that a PRP failed to meet its PRP obligations, Agency may be able to use the EJ Assessment tool to:
 - Strictly enforce penalties against owners; or
 - Suggest redevelopment or EJ sensitive Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs).

Summary

- EJ Assessment tool is a mechanism that allows the U.S. EPA to measure a variety of variables (e.g., income) in relation to regulated facilities.
- This tool may be used to more appropriately select site ICs and/or make enforcement decisions.
- U.S. EPA's, Office of Enforcement Compliance Assurance is currently developing a new EJ assessment tool.
- Please contact the Office of Environmental Justice, (202) 564-2440, for more information.